IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

-VS-

RODNEY LEE VAUGHN

Plaintiff: CASE NO. 1:05 CV 1008

: MEMORANDUM OF OPINION

: AND ORDER

FRANCIS E. GAUL, et al.

Defendants :

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE LESLEY WELLS

On 20 April 2005, plaintiff *pro se* Rodney Lee Vaughn filed this *in forma pauperis* action against Francis E. Gaul and the State of Ohio. Mr. Vaughn appears to allege that his property was foreclosed upon in 1996. For the reasons stated below, this action is dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e).

Although <u>pro se</u> pleadings are liberally construed, <u>Boag v. MacDougall</u>, 454 U.S. 364, 365 (1982) (per curiam); <u>Haines v. Kerner</u>, 404 U.S. 519, 520 (1972), the district court is required to dismiss an action under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e) if it fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, or if it lacks an arguable basis in law or fact. 1 Neitzke v. Williams, 490 U.S. 319 (1989); <u>Lawler v. Marshall</u>, 898 F.2d 1196 (6th Cir. 1990); <u>Sistrunk v. City of Strongsville</u>, 99 F.3d 194, 197 (6th Cir. 1996).

¹ A claim may be dismissed <u>sua sponte</u>, without prior notice to the plaintiff and without service of process on the defendant, if the court explicitly states that it is invoking section 1915(e) [formerly 28 U.S.C. § 1915(d)] and is dismissing the claim for one of the reasons set forth in the statute. <u>McGore v. Wrigglesworth</u>, 114 F.3d 601, 608-09 (6th Cir. 1997); <u>Spruytte v. Walters</u>, 753 F.2d 498, 500 (6th Cir. 1985), <u>cert. denied</u>, 474 U.S. 1054 (1986); <u>Harris v. Johnson</u>, 784 F.2d 222, 224 (6th Cir. 1986); <u>Brooks v. Seiter</u>, 779 F.2d 1177, 1179 (6th Cir. 1985).

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Principles requiring generous construction of *pro* se pleadings are not without

limits. Beaudett v. City of Hampton, 775 F.2d 1274, 1277 (4th Cir. 1985). A complaint

must contain either direct or inferential allegations respecting all the material elements of

some viable legal theory to satisfy federal notice pleading requirements. See Schied v.

Fanny Farmer Candy Shops, Inc., 859 F.2d 434, 437 (6th Cir. 1988). District courts are

not required to conjure up questions never squarely presented to them or to construct full

blown claims from sentence fragments. <u>Id.</u> at 1278. To do so would "require [the courts] to

explore exhaustively all potential claims of a pro se plaintiff, [and] would . . . transform the

district court from its legitimate advisory role to the improper role of an advocate seeking

out the strongest arguments and most successful strategies for a party." Id. at 1278.

Even liberally construed, the complaint does not contain allegations reasonably

suggesting Mr. Vaughn might have a valid federal claim. See, Lillard v. Shelby County Bd.

of Educ., 76 F.3d 716 (6th Cir. 1996) (court not required to accept summary allegations or

unwarranted legal conclusions in determining whether complaint states a claim for relief).

Accordingly, the request to proceed in forma pauperis is granted and this action is

dismissed under section 1915(e). Further, the court certifies, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §

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1915(a)(3), that an appeal from this decision could not be taken in good faith.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Lesley Wells

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated: 9 June 2005